GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:180
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2002
DISTORTION OF HISTORICAL FACTS IN FILMS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;NITISH SENGUPTA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of factual/historical distortions found in recent films released viz. on Emperor Ashoka, Devdas and Saheed Bhagat Singh;

(b) whether the Central Films Censor Board has failed to prevent distortions in the aforesaid films;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons for failure to prevent such distortions; and

(d) the steps taken so far and proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such distortions in future ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.180 FOR ANSWE ON 25.07.2002.

(a) & (b): The Examining Committees of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), which previewed the films `Asoka`, `Shaheed-E-Azam`, `The Legend of Bhagat Singh`, `23rd March 1931-Shaheed`, `Bhagat Singh` and `Devdas` did not find anything objectionable in the films and unanimously recommended grant of certificates to the films subject to certain cuts except in the case of `Devdas`, which had been recommended for grant of a clear `U` certificate. In some cases historians were also associated with the deliberations.

(c) & (d): Do not arise.